BYAAAH!!!

NO WEBSITE
NO MIRC
NO E-MAIL

PROJECT: KAGETORA
VOLUME: 8
SCANNED: OCT 08

FOR THE FANS BY A FAN. REMEMBER, IF YOU LIKE IT, GO BUY IT!
PAGES HAVE BEEN CROPPED TO GET RID OF THE GUTTER,
BUT IT'S STILL VISIBLE,
AS I REALLY DON'T CARE TOO MUCH ABOUT THE QUALITY.
SCANNED) CROPPED) CLEANED) SAVED.
ALSO I'VE DONE A QUICK JOB ON ANY DOUBLE PAGE SPREADS,
JUST TO MAKE IT EASIER TO READ.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE MY ATTEMPT, TOUGH SHIT.
IF YOU WISH TO SHARE THIS, FEEL FREE.
ALL I ASK YOU LEAVE THE PAGES AND TAGS INTACT.
APART FROM THAT I DONT CARE.
ANYHOW ENJOY!

NOTES:

HAPPY TO SAY I'M STILL ALIVE.
JUST BEEN REALLY BUSY FOR THE LAST 8 MONTHS OR SO. SINCE ITS OCTOBER AND 3 YEARS SINCE I STARTED TO SCAN, I THOUGHT I'D START TO GET THIS YEARS XMAS BATCH RELEASE STARTED.
SO FOR ALL THOSE WHO REMEMBER LAST XMAS, I HOPE TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

RU

デルレイ

KAGE TORA 8

AKIRA SEGAMI

Ballantine Books

DEL REY

BROTHERLY LOVE?

Kagetora is in love with his student, Yuki, and that's a big no-no. His duty as a ninja is to train and protect her, but his heart has taken him places no ninja can ever go. Now Kagetora's brother Taka is in town to test Yuki—which only strains the relationship between Kagetora and his charge. Will Taka's presence cause more problems for a pair who already have too many?

INCLUDES SPECIAL EXTRAS AFTER THE STORY!

BYAAAH SCANS

RATING T AGES 13+

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8
KAGETORA
AKIRA SEGAMI

KAGETORA
カゲトラ

Akira Segami

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Featured in Magazine Special 2005 No. 6 – No. 8
& Weekly Shonen Magazine 2005 No. 8 – No. 11

KAGE

A Note from the Author

There is a theory
that Basho was a ninja.
I guess it's possible,
because he traveled really
fast. I would like to travel too,
though not that fast.
Like hot springs. Maybe I can
be a wanderer or a hermit.
But not a ninja. (laugh)

Segami

Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics, and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san," and it is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/ Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as yobisute, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

8

KAGETORA

カゲトラ

KAGETORA
Kagetora...
...my oyakume ninja forever, right?
You're going to be...
...your oyakume ninja.
I'll always be...
Of course.

KAGETORA
カゲトラ
#35 Yuki vs. Taka

.....
Her oyakume ninja...
...huh...?

Well, I thought I knew it...
I knew it...
...but...
...it still hurts.
You're going to be my oyakume ninja forever, right?
I feel like a knife's been stabbed through my heart.
.....
Monkeys are so carefree.
SIGH
KYE?
What the heck!?
RUFFLE
RUFFLE
Kosuke...
KYE.
KYE!
What's wrong? You're depressed.

KYE.
.....
Yeah.
It's...
...just that I'm foolish.
SIGH
RUSTLE
Oh, here he is.
It's my fault...
...for saying that.
.....
He looks depressed...

I don't want him to stay like that.
I need to apologize!
CLENCH
Ugh!
UMMM
"I didn't mean it that way..."
But what should I say?
I was treating him like an object.
"My oyakume ninja..."
.....
"I want to stay with you no matter..."
BLUSH
Spying? On Kagetora?
TH-THUMP
!?
No, not like that!
SHAKE
SHAKE

Oh!!
Huh?
!?
TWITCH
Hime!! What happened!?
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
Hime's voice!?
"Ugh"? What do you mean "ugh"?
By what?
Oh, sorry. I was just surprised.
Are you okay!?
I screamed.
GASP
Ugh.
Surprised?
ZWISH

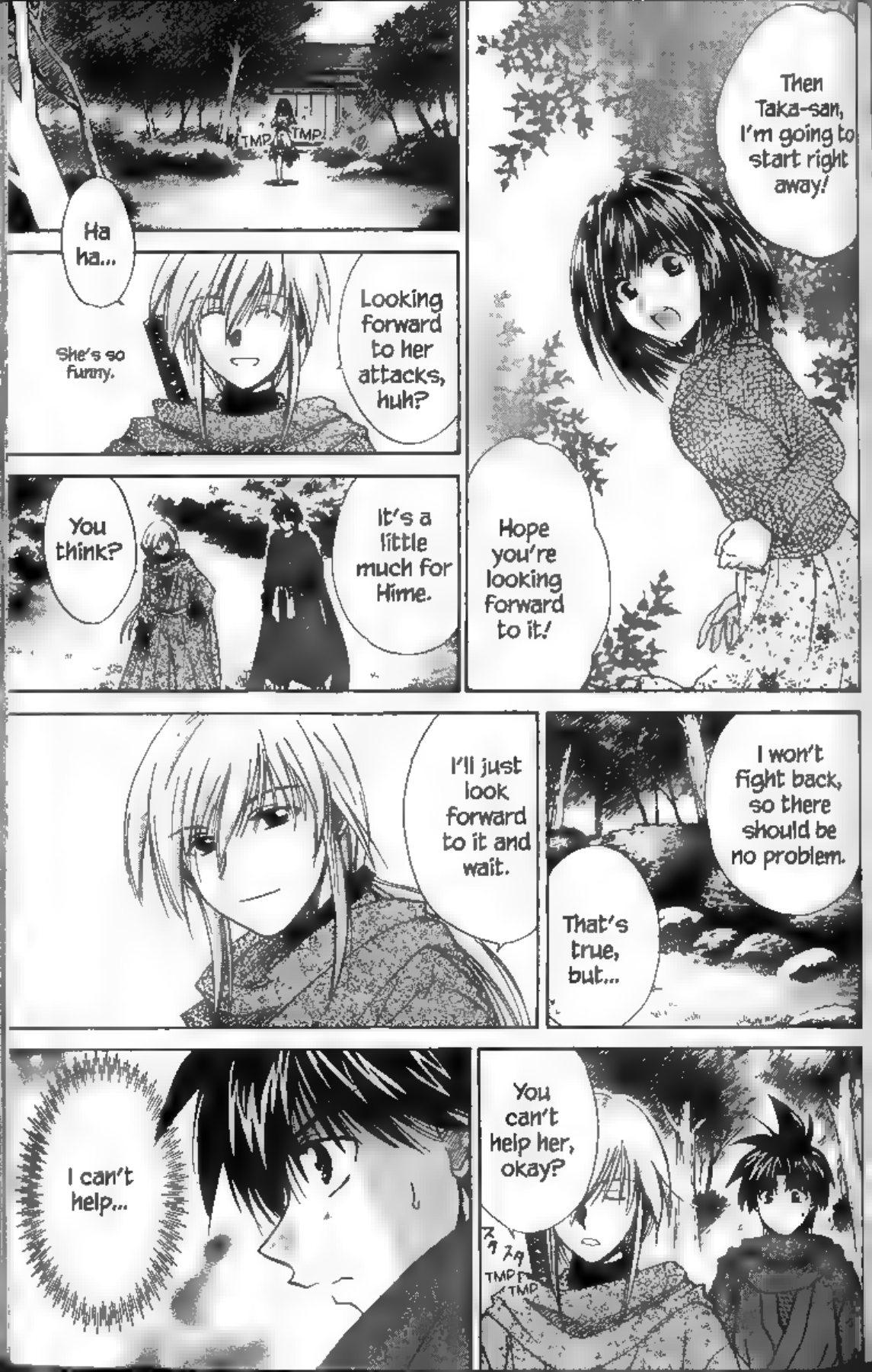
Brother Taka.
So that's how you greet your brother...
...Kagetora...
PINCH
Ow ow ow ow ow!
Why the long face?
Huh?
I have to check on something and deliver a message.
LET GO
A few small things, but yes.
A message?
Are you here on business?
Um, Taka-san!
Um, um...
Let me go.

It's from the former master of the Toudou family, Sagiri-sama.
She wanted to tell you the following.
"I'm wondering how you've improved since our practice this summer."
"If you haven't improved, I'll come visit and train you some more."
That's the message.
What!? Grandma's coming!?
...uh...
To train me!?
The previous master?
Grandma's training is hard and strict.
And she...
PEEK
...is also strict with Kagetora.
Former master...
She said something to him last time, too.

The message is very like her.
Huh?
What should I do?
It's going to make matters worse.
Didn't you say you had to check on something, too?
Yeah.
So like I said...
That's my assignment this time.
I have to check if Hime-sama has improved.
And report back to the previous master.
That's what I have to check.
I guess she could surprise-attack me.
And if she hits me once, she passes.
She couldn't hit me once even if she tried a hundred times.
Even with my hands tied behind my back.
That's the problem.
But how?
HMMM...

So if I hit you once...
...she'll see that I've improved?
Yes.
She'll only come if you haven't improved.
Then Grandma won't come, right?
I guess so.
Makes sense.
What are the rules?
There are none.
I can get you by surprise?
Of course.
Or else it'd be impossible.
Yes.
Impossible.
NOD
NOD
You're too quick to criticize your abilities.
Oh well.

Yes!
I'll do my best!!
Well, Hime-sama. Let's set a deadline for tomorrow night.
That's okay, right?
Good luck.
. . . . . .
She's really willing to do this...
I guess she really doesn't want the previous master to come.
Okay...
I'll get him for sure!
Don't worry! I'll be fine.
ZUI!
Hime.
It'll be hard against Brother Taka...


TMP
TMP
Ha ha...
She's so funny.
Looking forward to her attacks, huh?
You think?
It's a little much for Hime.
Then Taka-san, I'm going to start right away!
Hope you're looking forward to it!
I'll just look forward to it and wait.
I won't fight back, so there should be no problem.
That's true, but...
I can't help...
You can't help her, okay?
TMP
TMP

KWISH
If I'm going up against a ninja, I have to act like one, too.
YUP!
Okay!
Thanks for the kimono.
No prob.
KYE.
FLAP
Ninja techniques
I just have to work on the surprise attack.
Now how should I go about this?
Hmmm

Trap Hole
Whoa!
So a trap, huh?
FALL
I'll start with the classics.
Okay!
CLAP
Rope
Oh no!
Yeah, it's pretty tough to manage.
STRUGGLE
STRUGGLE
I need to pick something safer!
It's too dangerous.
GRIP
Pushing in the Lake
Glad it was shallow.
DODGE
Aagh!
SPLASH
I need to do something easier!
That was too difficult.
PANT
PANT

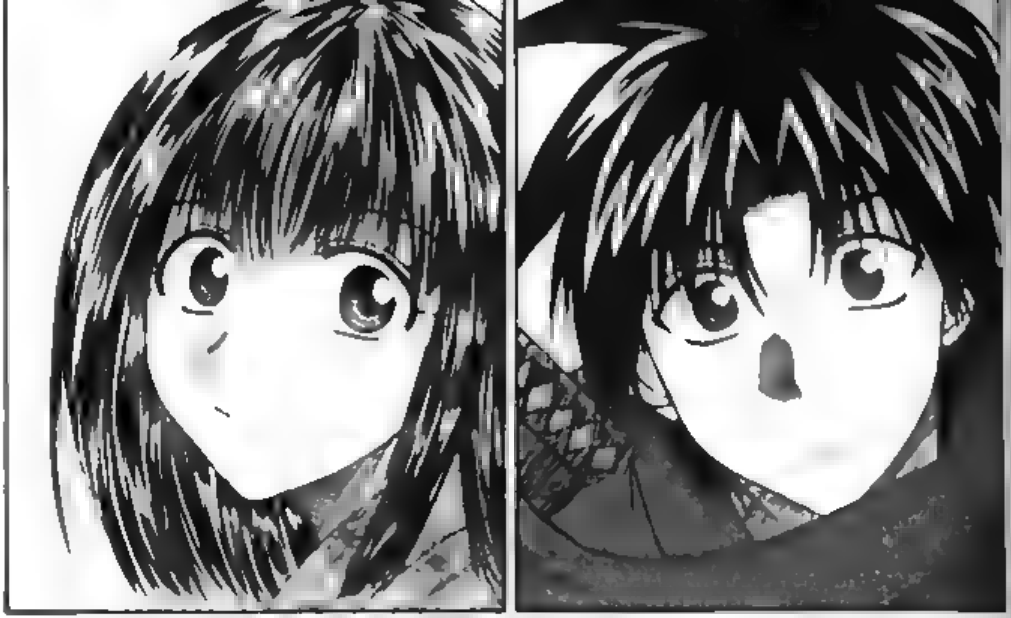
...can't get him at all.
I...
Urgh...
...er...
Ribbit
But I can't help her...
It's too hard to watch!
WORRIED
SPLASH
ACHOO!
Hime!

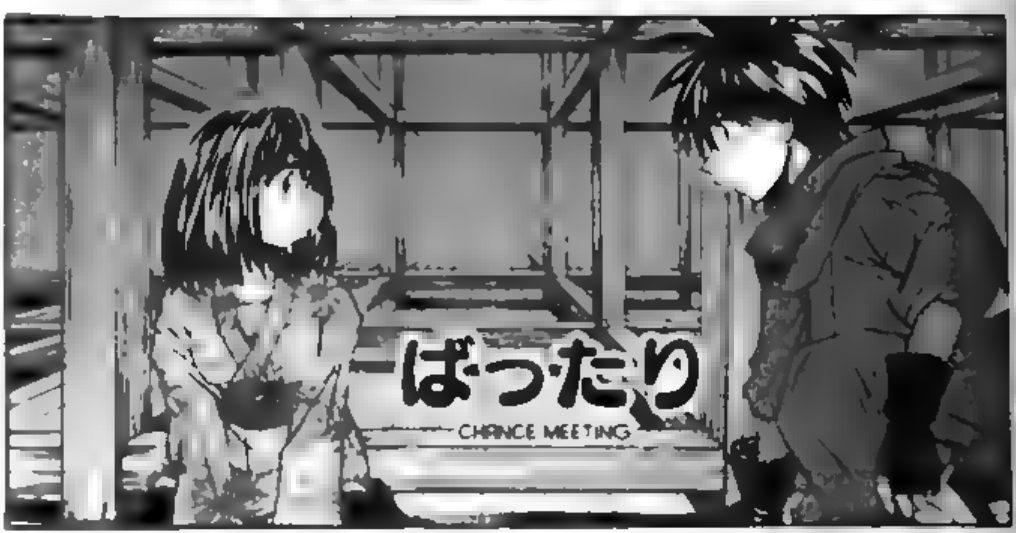
I think you should give up...
I don't think you can do it.
It's too hard.
Kagetora
Get out of there! You'll catch a cold.
I'm going to get him!!
SPLASH!
!?
I can't do that!!
Anyway, I'm not giving up!
DASH
Oh
Hime.
Oh. Uh...
Yet?
...Grandma coming yet.
I can't have...

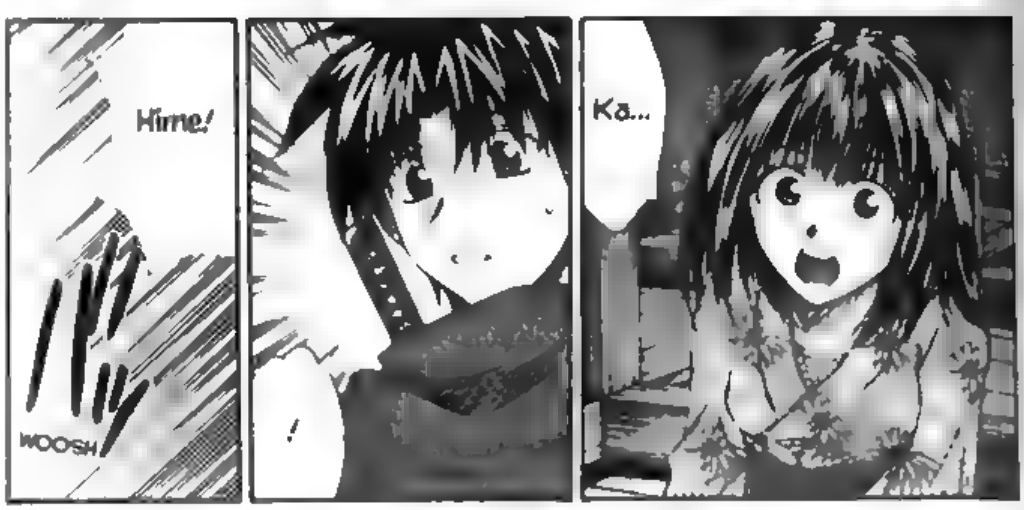
Sigh...
I did it again.
I know he was worried about me...
He's too good...
Maybe I should.
I think you should give up...
But...
SPLASH

Achoo!
Oops.
SPLASH
I still have time!
No! I can't give up!
SPLASH
So I guess I can also...
Surprise attack.
Okay!

I know I'm not supposed to help.
But I'm worried Hime is going to get hurt.
He's sleeping right here.
ZWISH
Then maybe Hime will have a chance.
GLARE
I think I'll just have to injure Brother Taka first!
But not too much.
I need to move carefully.
But it'll still be hard.
He's so sharp.
So I should get him while he's sleeping.
CREAK
But it won't be easy for me, either.




ばったり
CHANCE MEETING


Hime!
WOOSH
!
Ka...

I felt Hime-sama's presence...
...but there's someone else.
Hm.
SILENCE
Hmm...
I guess I'll go to bed and wait.
Sigh.
SLIDE
I told him to stay out of it.
Although I expected him not to.
WOOSH

Sorry...
Hime, you need to be quiet.
WHISPER
Yeah!
WOOSH!
I'm sorry!
GASP
MUFFLE

TH-THUMP
Why is Hime/Kagetora here?
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
BONK
Are you going to...
Oh
!
CREAK
FALL
FALL
What the heck are they doing?
thought they were here to attack.

Why are you here?
Anyway, Kagetora...
Did you come here to help me?
!
Yeah.
Ow
Are...you okay!?
That made a huge sound.
Even if I can't help, I can still watch over you...
I am your oyakume ninja, after all.
So...
She's trying so hard...
...she might be offended if she finds out I was going to help her.
"Oyakume Ninja..."

Hime?
I...
No...
I didn't mean it that way.
What I said the other day.
About you being my oyakume ninja...
But...
?

Huh!?
I don't care if you're not my oyakume ninja.
Are you saying that I am unfit to be your oyakume ninja!?
PANIC
PANIC
I know I'm still lacking in some areas, but...
I...
I can only stay with you as an oyakume ninja...
I wanted to say...

...that I want you...
o stay with
e forever.

Oyakume or not...
...that's what I meant.
I'm sorry it came out wrong.
I wanted to apologize.
Oyakume or not...

I made you...
...feel bad, didn't I?
SAD
.....
Kage-tora?
Why are you quiet?
STARE
Did I say something wrong again?
No...
...your words made me so happy I couldn't speak.

I'm so relieved.
Good.
PHEW
You're not mad?
No!
You dislike your grandmother's training that much?
HEH
She still wants to do it.
Now I just have to hit Taka-san.
Huh?
What's that?
I'm working for something more important.
...It's not just that.
I just don't want her here.
WHOOSH
Nothing!

Hime...
FALL
Wha...
CRACK
Cough.
Cough.
Cough.
KER-RACK!
CRACK...
THUMP
Gah!
Hime!
Are you okay?
Cough
Yeah.
Something blocked my fall...
Uh?
Thing?

.....
Is this a surprise attack?
Um, no, this is...
!
Oh.

Yah!!
THWACK!
This is a hit.
Right?
Hime!?
Ha ha
You look so happy.
Yay!
Whoa
I never saw him get whacked by a board before...
I'll accept it.
That's right.
SMILE

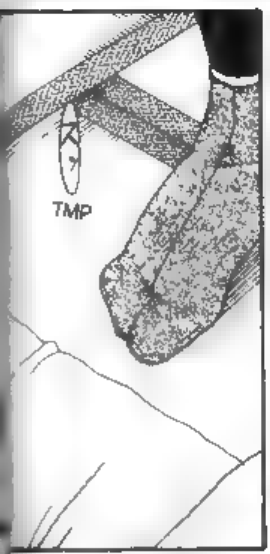
PINCH
I'm surprised.
PINCH
He's mad...
You're teaching her interesting things.
Ha ha ha
PINCH
Ow
ow
ow
ow
ow
PINCH
!!
GLOOM
TWITCH
Kagetora
About that.
I was kidding.
BLUNTLY
Phew
Grandma's not coming.
Oh.
Still it was a good opportunity, right?
I did come for a reason but the former master thing was a lie.
By the way, she's away on a vacation.
Yeah...
What!?

And I said what I wanted to, too.
I'm so relieved.
It was a joke.
I'm sorry about my family...
THUMP
It's okay, I was able to apologize to you.
Hime...
I wonder what she was talking about earlier.
But oh well.
I guess I have to thank Brother Taka for tonight.
GIGGLE
Yawn
I'm getting sleepy.

KAGETORA
カゲトラ

#36 Tiger and Hawk

TWEET
TWEET
CHIRP
CHIRP


TMP

ZZZZ...

SHK

WHOOSH
BAM!
The art of the ninja, fold and flip!
CLANG
Hmm.
BANG
CHINK
You're a little slow in your moves...

Good morning.
You sleep well?
But I guess it's good enough.
Brother Taka...
You should thank me.
Thank you?
To train you. It's obvious you're not as slick as before.
Why?
BLUNTLY
Why do you have to attack me every single morning!?

He's been here a couple of days.
And he's been doing this every morning.
Er...
URGH
You bear the Kazama name. And you have a duty to our master.
If you're a poor ninja, it brings shame to the whole family.
I should sharpen this.
I can't ask.
I wonder when he's going back to the village...
Yes.
Are you free today?
Hime.
Come in.
Kagetora? Are you awake?
KNOCK
KNOCK

Mom gave me tickets to the amusement park.
Do you want to go?
Oh, this is...
Yeah, we've gone there before.
It looked familiar.
That was a fun field trip.
I walked around with Hime.
It was like we were on a date.
HEH HEH
.....

GASP!
You're going to play for the whole day?
!

Amusement park, huh?
FLAP

WHIP
No, that's not it.
Then what are you going to do?

I'm going to protect Hime.

I don't want him coming along.
.....
I see.

Oh.
....
Taka-san, did you want to go, too?

Kage-tora...
You don't want me going?
WHAT!?
This ticket is good for up to three people.
No, of course not.
I just thought you wouldn't like those kinds of places.
So...
Then I'm going to get ready.
Sure.
GLOOM
I shall go.
!!
TURN
SHOCK
PANT
PANT
I also have to hang out with brother Taka.
Er...not only did I miss a chance to be alone with Hime...

I don't have a good feeling about this.
BELLA BOUX LAND
Kagetora! Taka-san. This way.
Where do you want to start?

Even if it's not true, that makes me happy.
Hime and I look like a couple.
Idiot, she was with her boyfriend.
They're on a date.
Wasn't she super cute?
Should I talk to her?
But...
There are couples all over the place.
What's that?
Tarabou Coaster
Mascot...
Oh. That's the mascot for this park.
PIKO PIKO
. . . . . .
...our group has a third wheel.
SIGH

Ha ha
You're like a country bumpkin who came to the city.
So this is an amusement park? I see.
GLANCE
ぱす
WHUMP
It's annoying
FOO
Yeah.
I'm coming.
THUMP
Brother Taka?
Uh, um, let's ride something.
Okay?
PINCH
Ow ow ow!
Look who's talking.
Ha ha ha
PINCH

Shouldn't the oyakume ninja sit next to her?
He's sitting next to Hime.
I wanted to...
Why are you unhappy?
I'm not...
I guess I can sit with her on another ride.
Another...
ride...
.....
You spun too hard.
I'm dizzy.
NOOOO!!

Don't act dumb.
DIZZY..
What?
Aren't you forgetting someone?
WHISPER
It's like you're the oyakume ninja.
I, the oyakume ninja, should be accompanying Hime.
And it looks like he's on a date with Hime.
URGH
(the truth)
Then let's do that one next.
That one?
Okay.
I understand.

It's so not fun!!
What's wrong? Not fun?
Why do I have to ride with my brother?
They're so close.
To ride the ferris wheel together.
.....

I thought you wanted to ride with me.
No!
Well this isn't fun.
Then we shouldn't be riding!
Fine. Then you can accompany Hime-sama for the next one.
Next one?
TA-DA!
Horror haus
I hear this is popular among couples.
Go right ahead.
Ha ha ha
He's definitely doing this on purpose!!

Really?
FEIGNING
白々
Um, Taka-san. I think Kagetora doesn't want to go in.
Okay, go ahead and have fun.
Uh, i... um...
I guess I'll have to go in...
What a useless oyakume ninja...
Sigh
Kage- tora...
I'll accompany Hime!
TUG
GLARE
WHOOSH!!

You really don't have to.
It's the thought that counts...
For you, I would walk through fire!
GRIP!
Well said.
CLAP
CLAP
Then go ahead.
Huh!?
PUSH
PUSH
I feel tricked.
It looks scary.
Now then...

Wow, look at that.
This is all fake. This is all fake. This is all fake...
Keep calm, keep calm.
The Power of Suggestion
Kagetora, are you okay?
Yeah... sort of...
I wonder if he's okay
GLANCE
Oh? He looks fine.

Then I'll rely on you!
SQUEEZE
.....
Hime is relying on me.
I'm pretty scared.
That's right! They're all fake. I don't need to be scared!
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
It's just a toy.
Oh!
Leave it to me!
Yeah.

Look, Hime.
TAP
This one looks real, doesn't it?
TAP
KLUNK
That's pretty well made.
Ha ha
See, that's fake.
GRAB
SHAKE
ふる
ふる
SHAKE
The technology's pretty advanced.
Huh?
Huh...
GRIN

He's fast!
CRASH
Aaaaggghhh!
DASH
SWISH
Stay back!
Take off that mask!!
There's a person in there, right!?
Then I'm not scared!
THUNK
It dodged!?
My shuriken?

Huh...
GLARE
PLOP
スポー
RIP
I didn't think he'd faint.
Kage-tora!?
ER
THUMP

So it was your doing!?
That zombie...
For you to faint like that is shameful, Kagetora.
GRR
What did you do that for?
Well made, wasn't it?
Uh...
Are you okay?
AGAPE
AGAPE
But that was...
GLANCE
Even Hime-sama was fine.
Work harder.
PAT
BLUSH
...er...
You're an unreliable oyakume ninja.
Sigh.

it's none of your business!
SLAP
Where are you going?
TMP
TMP
Kage-tora!?
TURN
tora...

Are you still mad?
Kagetora?
There you are.
. . . . .
I lost you for a moment.
TMP
TMP
Oh.
I didn't want you to see me like that.
He's right.
I'm a sad excuse for an oyakume ninja.
Kage-tora...
Of all people to see that.
Find me a hole. Drop me in it.
That's because I didn't touch it...
So, um...
わた
WADWAVEDA
わた
WAVE
But you didn't faint.
SIGH
But it was really scary.
Right?

Huh!?
Then you can hide in here.
KICK
I see.
Brother Taka!?
SLAM
PUSH
PUSH
!?
Hime-sama, you, too.
Go ahead.
Huh?
What are you thinking!?
.....
You're going back home?
Brother Taka!
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
What...
I'm going home.
Have fun.

Hmm...
He jokes around, he messes with me.
He comes suddenly and he goes suddenly!
I don't understand him!
STOMP
We can't say that.
But he wouldn't do anything pointless.
Look at us now.
CREAK
/? It stopped!?
Kagetora! Look outside!
What is he thinking!?
Did he do this, too?
Attention, riders. We apologize.
Huh?
Outside?
We have stopped the ride due to technical difficulties.

We're at the very top, so we can see everything.
I guess so.

Look at the view!
So pretty!
...uh...
See?

Huh?
...did this to show us this view.
Hey, maybe Taka-san...
Brother Taka? He wouldn't be so humble.
He probably felt bad.
But he couldn't apologize in person, so...
When I was a kid...
Oh...
Hey. Kage-tora!

...that it's impossible for me to become an oyakume ninja.
Even though I'm training hard everyday.
Brother Taka said...
What's wrong?
That's worse.
Sniff
Taka just calls it like he sees it.
He didn't mean to be insensitive.
And you got into a fight and lost.
Urgh...
But I already had mine.
Is this yours?
Yeah!
Oh! Mother's ohagi.
You like this, right?
Here you go.

No.
It's Taka's.
He came by earlier.
Hey.
That's yours. Aren't you going to eat it?
Kagetora and I already ate ours.
.....
You like it, too, right?
I don't need any.
I don't feel like it today.
WHOOSH
Huh?
But since it would be a waste,
you can give it to Kagetora or something.
He likes it so much, he could eat more.
I'm just telling you
I'm only giving it away because I don't want to waste it.
So he's giving it to you. He probably feels bad.
HEH <,
HEH <,
He just has a hard time putting it into words.
Forgive him, okay?
All right.
HEH

So you should take it.
Okay.
.....
はむ
MUNCH
Brother Taka...
...he hasn't changed a bit.
.....
Right?
You think so, too, don't you?
I guess so.
Good.
The next time I see him I have to thank him.
Thank him?
Yeah.

He showed both of us.
He showed us this wonderful view.
I...
...always dreamed of a date like this.

Oh.
Huh?
!
Um, Hime... date?
Yeah.
That's right.
Ha ha ha
It'd be perfect!!
Ha ha ha
Oh! I mean, if this were a date...
Huh? How!?
I think you brothers are similar.
Um...
Both of you are shy.
Giggle
Thank you!

▲The Toudou house

KAGETORA
#37 The Secret of Yuki's Body

WHOOOOSH

A shower after practice is the best.
Ah, that felt good!

Oh?

This scale is new.
Maybe Mom bought it.

Huh?
BEEP
I haven't weighed myself in a while.
I should try it.
TAP
ひょい
ちまっ
SMALL

We have gym next. That won't be enough.
Yeah.
Huh?
Is that all you're having for lunch?
This is half?
RUSTLE RUSTLE
You can have half of mine.
Make sure you eat.
Here.
PLUNK
Hime! There you are.
PEEK
Actually, I'm di...
!
THUMP
Um, Aki-chan.

Veggies aren't enough!
Okay?
This meal was Kiritani's idea.
Um, I, uh...
Oh.
You're eating a well-balanced lunch.
Good for you.
Right?
Oh, um...
Oh.
Yuki.
Well, it's important in sports.
UM...
UM...
You know your stuff.
"Die"?
TWITCH
!
Di... what?
What were you saying earlier?
I'm di...
I'm...
Um, I was saying...
?
GLANCE

PHEW
Oh you like that?
I didn't know.
Yeah.
Cream-filled bread!
Dying to have this!
HA HA HA
I have another one
Here.
RCK!
A nice healthy appetite, Hime.
!?
Uh...
Thanks...
Ha ha ha
What are we doing today?
CHATTER
CHATTER
And so...
Girl's Locker Room

I ended up eating everything.
I'm stuffed.
I should've told them I'm on a diet.
SIGH
は――っ
じ――っ
STARE
...
But I don't want Kagetora to know.
Aki-chan? What is it?
Um, I'm not sure.

Aki-chan, what are we doing today?
For gym.
Hm?
Running.
It stinks.
Yuki, have you...
TH-THUMP
Running!
That's great for weight loss!!
TW TCH!
We should work hard!!
Why is she excited?
Yeah...
The girls are running today.
That stinks.
Okay.
We're starting.
CHATTER
CHATTER
Oh!

Okay!
SLAP
SLAP
TIGHTEN
Oh
She's...
...really into it.
HEH
Go!
DASH!
Whoa!?
STARE
Ready...
I wonder if she's going to be okay.
But this is a marathon, right?
She won't last.
Whoa!? Yuki-chan just took off!!
Way fast.

Ow...
Owww...
Are you okay?
Yeah, we're almost home.
You didn't pace yourself...
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
Sore muscles
I think I should carry you.
No!!
She really doesn't want me to carry her. I wonder why.
Hmmm..
Hm...
Maybe I should add more practical training in addition to our martial arts.
For everyday stuff.
If he carries me, he'll know how much heavier I am...

He already knows!
SHOCK
WHISPER
!
Maybe we need to add to our routine.
Ka... Kagetora...
Yes?
Do you...
...know already?
?
I can't tell... but...
No, it's nothing! Let's go home!
TURN
Er...
Know what?
HUH?
She's fast!
I need to get back to my normal weight.
CREAK
CREAK
Before he notices.

Sakuya!?
Good job... huh?
We're finally home...
PHEW
Ooww.
Tora. Yuki-chan.
Hey, guys.
You should go straight home.
I have some time until my next assignment.
So I thought I'd hang around
Before going back to Hoara!
Oh.
That's unusual.
Taka was here?
First Brother Taka, now you..
SIGH

She has such a nice body.
!!
Sakuya-chan! You're going to stay the night, right!?
ZIP!
Huh? Yeah, I was hoping you'd let me stay...
Um, I sort of...
...have a favor to ask.
A favor?

.....
TMP
TMP
?
!?
Not you, Kagetora!
Sakuya-chan, this way!
Hmmm?
I don't get it.
I don't think she's avoiding me.
Hime is acting a little strange today.
Huh!?
I wanted you to tell me.
Yeah.
My exercise routine?

My weight's been holding steady for a long time.
But last night I was heavier.
I do!
You don't need to diet do you?
You're skinny
SHAKE
SHAKE
Thanks!!
Hm... I don't do anything other than training.
But I can try to help you out.
Let's begin.
Yes!

What's most important is aerobic exercise!
But since you're training every day, let's just stretch.
I'll push you.
PUSH
PUSH
Okay.
And lift your leg.
Like this?

PUSH
CREAK
More like this.
Breathe in.
Yeow!
THAT
Hmmm.
Lie on your stomach and lift up.
Now your abs.
OOF
Yeah...
Yuki-chan!
Are you okay?
And then this.
CREAK
!!
Yee-ow!
No, more like this.
CRACK

Okay...
WERK
I guess that should do it.
Sakuya-chan is pretty harsh.
Next?
And now on to the next thing.
Let's see...
Massage?
Like this?
Massaging in the tub!
Feels good, right?
SPLASH
ぽしゃん!!

Agh!
You have to push behind the thighs.
FLINCH
PUSH
No, no.
That won't work at all.
Then maybe we should steam.
That should be fine, right?
Yeah.
That's okay
Oh, that's right.
Sakuya-chan, I'm ticklish.

I know.
This feels good.
Phew.
You have more of a girly body.
Nice and soft.
Mine's more muscle.
My boobs are mostly muscle.
Sakuya-chan, you have a great body.
I'm so jealous.
That might be true, but...
ut...

I wonder which type Kagetora likes.
BLUSH
Whoa.
What am I thinking?
Er...
What's wrong? You're all red.
Huh?
You, too.
All red.
Really!?
GASP

That's right.
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
Sigh
Guys don't have to worry about these things.
Only girls have this problem.
KLUNK
WHOOSH
GIGGLE
We should get out.
Oh...
DIZZY
I see...
Yuki-chan!?

SAD
You exercised with Sakuya...
Then bathed and then jumped in the sauna.
I'm sorry!!
Sakuya, it's your duty to watch out for her.
.....
No wonder you fainted!
That's too much hard work.
This is between ninjas.
Please stay out of this, Hime.
It's not Sakuya-chan's fault!

Besides, why did you do all this?
But...
I don't want to tell you.
Don't want to tell me?
What?
me...
I don't want to say it!
WHUMP
ガバッ
If you're going to put yourself in danger, I need to know.
I'm your oyakume ninja.
!

SLAM
THUMP
Just leave me alone!!
!?
TAP
Stupid...
Why is she getting mad at me?
DUMB
FOUNDED
This was your fault, you know.

You know why Hime's mad/?
Her feelings? Hey, Sakuya/
TMP
TMP
But I'm just worried//
TAP
But you weren't thinking of her feelings.
TURN
Sakuya..
TUG
!?
If she's so important to you...
You need to understand her feelings/

Stupid ninja!
BLEH
Her feelings?
Why do girls do these crazy things!?
I really don't get it.
Saku
WHIP
Maybe she's trying to see how much stamina she has!?
Or endurance?
GASP!
They both require stamina.
Marathon sauna...
I don't think so.
Think harder
SHAKE
SHAKE
No, no...

I guess I have no choice.
Gee, when it involves Yuki-chan...
He's losing his mind.
He doesn't even realize I'm here
Aargh!
RUFF
RUFF
I have absolutely no idea.
Tora!
I'll tell you.
WOOSH
But she doesn't have to.
Lose weight!?
Yuki-chan's trying to lose weight.
hat's why ou're so dense.
Geez.

Sigh...
.....
I was too mean to Kagetora.
He was just worried about me...
KNOCK KNOCK
Hime! Excuse me.
WAKE UP
I'm hungry.
My stupid stomach.
GROWL...
ROL
.....

TA-DA!
Oh.
This is made with brown rice, so it's low in calories.
I don't need any!
You need to eat or you won't get better.
Huh?
Yes.
Low in calories...
You think I'm getting fat, too.
じわっ
TEAR

Hime!
...uh.
WOOSH
Huh!?
FLOAT
ふわ
!?

Kage...
See?
You're not heavy at all.
Really?
Of course.
You're actually too light.
You don't need to go on a diet.
Hime, you're fine.
Just the way you are.

SQUEEZE
...Hime...?

Yuki-chan, can I talk to you?
Huh?
What's wrong?
Uh...
Anyway, Yuki-chan, how tall are you?
Huh?
149 cm.*
*4' 11"
You're 153 cm!/*
No wonder your weight went up.
I thought so.
*5 feet
Oh, I knew it.
Let me see...
PEEP!
Really!?
I didn't notice at all.
You look the same.

One more thing.
Huh?
Oh.
Yeah!
Then you didn't need to diet.
I see.
That's because you're growing too. Naturally.
Agh!?
PEEP!
This.
Size?
?
!
You'll need to get a bigger size.
Good for you.
♡
You grew here, too.
Oh!

Oh.
Understood
BLUSH
かあーっ
ばっ
WHUMP!
Stupid!
Go away!
!?
Why...
I really don't understand girls' feelings.
To Be Continued in volume 9

Explanation

Um...the chapters that follow are the ones that were featured in *Weekly Shonen Magazine* for a short period of time. It's like... maybe a side story? (laugh)

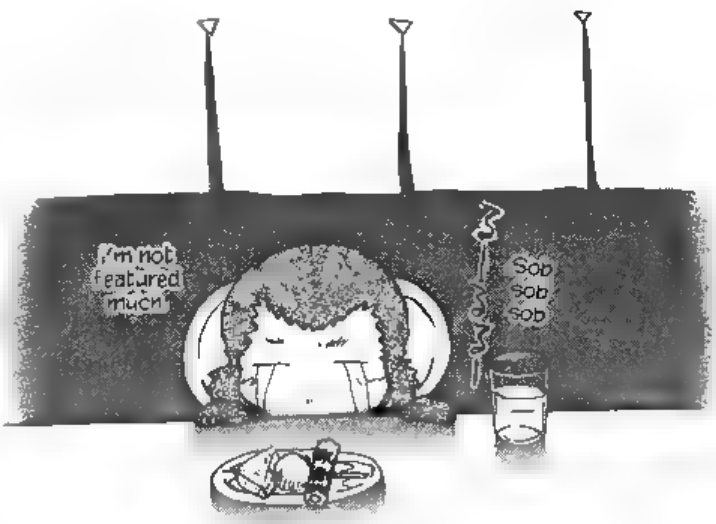
Kagetora and Yuki are in their senior year, but in the side story they are still juniors. It's set during the winter, so it takes place around #21 and #22. Maybe you can enjoy it while reading volume 5.

By the way, I did this feature in the *Weekly Shonen Magazine* on very short notice. I had to scramble with my staff to finish it. To have a weekly deadline... it was very thrilling and I feel like I gained a lot of experience (laugh).

I thought that with this, I had mastered the concept of deadlines. But when I went back to monthly deadlines, I realized I had completely forgotten the feeling of a deadline that slowly creeps up on you. Well, I guess that can't be helped...

So please enjoy the *Weekly Shonen Magazine* version of KAGETORA.

◀ He had difficulties and hardships in volume 8 (laugh)



KAGETORA

Yah!
Tokyo
THWACK
Hime.
That was too easy to stop.
See?
CATCH
Take that!
SLIP
SWING!
Urrrggh
I'll get you next time!
Whoa...
CLANK
THUMP
KAGETORA

KAGETORA
カゲトラ

Special #1
Winter Training Is a Dangerous Thing

I am a ninja.
ZWISH
Are you okay?
My name is Kagetora. I'm from Hoorai.
I messed up again.
DASH
TH-THUMP
She's so cute

...for the Toudou household's Hime," Yuki Toudou.
I am here to be a martial arts instructor...
Okay...
Oh! No, it's nothing.
Kagetora? Is something wrong?
You're zoning.
GASP
And what am I doing in Tokyo?
We should continue our training.
Sure.
TURN
However, there's a problem with this.
...here I go!
She fell from that move!?
Ack!
FALL
Oh.
Oh...
DODGE

The problem is that she has very poor reflexes.
Which is why I was called in to help.
Ow! I scraped my nose.
I don't think I'll get better.
It looks like you're getting tired.
Hime, I think we should stop for today.
Yeah...
You're right.
.....
Shoot, I got her all depressed!!
I'm here to train you!!
That's not true!

PUSH
Thanks, Kagetora!
HUG
!!
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
BLUSH
Then we'll continue tomorrow!
WHOOSH!
Kage-tora?
HUH?
ZIP

Sigh...
That was close.
.....
DAZED
Remembering
I almost lost my self-control.
GASP
I need to get a hold of myself!!
No, no!!
SHAKE
SHAKE
...my feelings for her.
...it's hard to contain...
I know this, but...
It is a betrayal of my duty to fall in love with my master.

Sigh...
But I have to, in order to keep working by her side.
Kagetora's being nice...
SPLASH
He's doing all he can to teach me...
...but I really need to work harder.
STING
Ow!
SPLASH
If he can see that I'm improving,
I'm sure he'll be happier.
.....

.....
I have a bruise here, too.
Ow...
From when I fell.
Whoa.
RUFFLE
RUFFLE
Up next in the news...
I can't be getting hurt during practice like that.
Winter training begins at Satomi High School.
Braving the cold weather, the Kendo students continued their practice.
They do this every year at the school.
I see..
Winter training?
!

And I thought it'd be a nice change.
Oh, cuz I saw it on the news.
see.
!
But what made you think of it?
TH-THUMP
That's a good idea.
I want you to train me.
s that kay?
So...
And train you!
As your oyakume ninja, I'll do my best.
INTENSE
Great.
Really!?
BOW
Of course!

TMP
TMP
.....
Yes.
Then tomorrow at six, okay?
I should get a good night's rest for tomorrow!
But I guess she's okay.
I was worried she would be depressed.
The next morning.
SLIDE
She's here already!?
Good morning, Hime.
Oh.
Whew, it's so cold.

FOO

Good morning, Kagetora!
SMILE
GASP
Oh!
.....
DETERMINED
BOW
Thank you for coming out!

Yes!
We'll start with jujitsu.
Okay.
I need to do my best!
She's really serious.
Urrrgggh...
Ugh...
Okay!
We'll do jujitsu later.
Why don't we do kendo?
Yah!
THUNK
THUNK
Um, Hime, I don't think you can throw me.
And it won't be good for her if I jump on purpose.
...ur!
Er...
URRRGGGGGGGH

What!?
Why did she fall!?
CRASH!
Ow!
WOBBLE
Whoa..
SWING
Mehn
We'll take a short break.
Hime, maybe we should rest.
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
Yeah...

Sigh...
I want to help her.
Hmm... What should I do?
Lots of responsibility
DASH
Let me go get some tea.
Hime...
I'll work harder after break!
Yeah!
Let me bring him the tea.
SHAKE
SHAKE
GASP
No, I can do it!!
DOWN
Geez.
I'm not getting better at all.
Oh.
I'm back with the drinks!
Maybe this'll be better.
It'll warm us up.
It is cold, after all.

Thanks a lot.
It's really cold this morning.
Nice to have hot tea.
Thank you.
Here you go!
Be careful. It's hot.
SIP.
This will warm you up.
!?
Huh?
はっ!
GASP!
Is this sake!?
Hime!
Did you drink this!?

I can't get drunk from this!
Hee hee!
Are you drunk?
Um, Hime...
Yeah...
Did you... drink it?
Okay then...
GIGGLE GIGGLE
I'm okay!
Whoops.
WOBBLE
...we should start again.
We'll do naginata.
Now that we're warmed up...
Hime!
Oh...
WHUMP
WHOOSH
WHIP

Are you really okay?
Yeah.
Thanks.
STARE
Hime?
WHIP
Hime!?
!?
CRACK!

Training's already begun.
You better watch out.
Hic.
Anyway, I need to figure out a way to stop her!!
It's too dangerous!
I don't know why, but Hime is stronger when she's drunk.
I really don't know why
She is drunk!!
OH NO
ere I...
HIC
Yuki Toudou!
Toudou-style naginata.
...come!!
ZWIP

Yah!!
SWING
She's fast!
She's stronger than last time!?
!
SWING
SST

We can't train if you dodge!
SWING
SWING
Why are you dodging!?
Gee.
If I don't dodge, I'll get killed!
SWOOSH
!!
Yah!!
WHIP
SWING

Noooo!!
Huh?
WHOOSH
WOBBLE
Oh...
Whoa...
THUD
!
THUMP

Are you okay?
I finally caught you!
...er...
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP

Um...
I...
You're not being serious.
POUT
You need to train me!
That's our deal!
Yeah, but...
Then be serious!
No!
Maybe we can do it another day.
You're drunk.
Hime?
TUG

I won't let go...
ドキンッ・
TH-THUMP
ドキン
TH-THUMP
ドキン
TH-THUMP
Hime...

Kage-tora...
I...
ドキン
TH-THUMP
ドキン
TH-THUMP
.....
Hime?
THUMP
ぎゅっ

She's sleeping.
Oh
Zzzz...
Oh...
But shoot...
She's sleeping so soundly.
I can't wake her up.
should wait awhile.
So much for my self-control.
Need to be more careful.
I need more training.
DRAG
DRAG
That was really close.
PHEW

TOUCH
She won't wake up.
Mn...
Do you remember anything?
I think you got drunk.
BANG!
!!
Oh, did I fall asleep?
Why?
RUB
WAKE UP
What happened to training?
Oh.
Actually, I was about to die.
We didn't do much after the break.

I wanted to show you.
Failed?
Yeah...
DOWN
It was supposed to be winter training.
I failed again.
That's why she was so serious.
I thought that would make you happy...
That I improved a bit thanks to your instruction.
Hime!!
GRIP
I'm just a big, fat failure.

That's not true.
You're improving every day!
I'm really happy just to be...
...your oyakume ninja.
TOUCH...
Really?

I'm happy you're my oyakume ninja, too!!
SMILE
Your face is all red.
Do you have a fever?
What!?
We'll work hard again tomorrow.
Hee hee.
A ninja cannot fall in love with his master.
What's wrong?
Oh?
I wonder how long my self-control will last...
It's
Nothing!
Ha ha ha ha.
? How weird.

Hm.
Well, if today's exercise isn't too bad, we'll do it in the morning.
Well, it's a Sunday, so we can adjust to your schedule.
Whatever you want.
Kage-tora.
Should we train in the morning tomorrow?
KAGETORA
Huh?
Toudou!
Do you remember me?
Long time, no see!
Hime's friend?
Ishida-kun!
Oh...

KAGETORA
カゲトラ

Special #2
Yuki on a Date

Why is Yuki so happy today?
And on the other hand...
SMILE
SMILE
JURRGGH
Wow, I haven't seen you since graduation.
Yeah.
So Toudou, I was wondering if you have some time tomorrow.
And...
We ran into some guy named Ishida, Hime's classmate from junior high.
Why are you so gloomy?
Stop it already.

I want to go somewhere with you.
Then can you free up the whole day?
Yeah, my schedule's flexible.
Yeah, that's a safe bet.
WHOOSH
You think so, too!?
...a date, isn't it?
Right?
That's...
BLUNTLY
I can't leave the two of them together... but what can I do...
SWIRL
SWIRL
A date? Does that mean that Ishida guy likes Hime?
If you follow, Yuki's going to hate you.
Why not? You weren't invited, right?
Urgh. I don't want that.
I know what you're thinking.
Kagetora, just in case...Don't follow them, all right?
What!? Why not!?
I should follow them as part of my oyakume duty...
I'm sure Yuki thinks nothing of it.
Hm.

I bet he's going to follow them anyway.
I'll have to follow them discreetly!!
Fine. Then I guess I have no choice.
URGH
Sunday
What do you want to ride?
Let's see.
.....
Yeah. My last time was for our field trip.
Whoa, it's been a while since we came here.

I don't know what Ishida's thinking.
So it's up to me to protect Hime!!
This is for a good cause!
This is my duty!
ZWISH
So they're here at an amusement park, huh?
Hm.
Huh?
BUZZ
BUZZ
Hey! A ninja!
Is that cosplay?
Seri-ously!?
Can you do some-thing for us?
Ha ha ha
Hey, ninja!
He's probably part of a show.
Can you guys be quiet? I'm here on a mission.
Aaagh!
WHOA
WOOSH
Art of the ninja, Spider Webs!
Hooraí-style...
TICKED

Then I should go, too.
They're going into that building.
Entrance
Two adults.
I finally caught up to them.
Let's go here.
HANG
Please let us down
ブラーン
BUZZ
BUZZ
I need to go after them.
Urgh!
Haunted House
TA DA
A haunted house!?
Terrified of ghosts
A haunted house...
Are you scared of them?
I'm a bit nervous...
A little...
If you are, you can hold on to my arm.
Just kidding.
Ha ha

I'm fine.
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
What is he saying!?
Ishida...
.....
I can't leave Hime alone with a guy like that!
GASP
I can't hesitate.
WHOOSH
She looks like she's having fun.
CLOCK

Whoa, someone is really scared back there.
.....
SCARED
Gah...
KLONK
KLONK
CLANG
Are you okay?
Yeah. Just surprised.
TA-DA
Whoa.
THUMP
Agh...
.....
That way.
THIS WAY
Well, then we'll get out of here asap!
TUG

What!?
Hoorai style art of the ninja, whirlwind!!
WOOSH
Oh, Ishida-kun!

You started crying when we got off.
We all rode that together.
Right.
You don't have to remember that.
Hey.
You don't have to remember that either.
Whoa.
Your knees are weak
Ha ha ha
Argh
You were weak in the knees too.
When we got off
. . . . . .
But it was funny.
I can't forget it.
Blah.
I was so uncool.

Ishida doesn't seem like a bad guy.
Which one do you want?
It doesn't seem like I need to be here.
SIGH
I'm getting so pathetic.
And Hime is having fun.
Huh?
.....
Toudou.
?
I want you to come one more place with me.
Ishida knows a side of Hime that I don't.

But where are they going?
They're leaving the park.
A junior high school?
Wow, how nostalgic.
But why are we here?
This is the school Hime attended.
I see.
We used to eat lunch here.
With everyone.
Yup.
.....

WHILE
Toudou.
What I couldn't say during junior high.
Huh?
I thought I could say it here.
I...
...like you.
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
!!
TH-THUMP

I've liked you...
...since junior high.
Ishida-kun...
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
.....
I wonder what Hime's going to say...
She did look like she was having fun.
I can't eavesdrop any longer.
WHOOSH

KYE!
Oh? Did you come home without Hime?
Ko-suke...
KYE.
SIGH
I wonder what happened.
I can't get it off my mind.
She's not home yet, either
Maybe she likes him, too.
KYE!
How sad !!
SIGH
There are situations a monkey can't under-stand.
TH-THUMP
Hime!!
Kagetora, are you there?
Kagetora is behind that rock.
don't know why.
FLIP
I can't see her right now.
Just Kosuke?
TH-THUMP
KYE
TH-THUMP
Huh?
TMP
TMP

He went after you this morning.
KYE!
Maybe he feels bad about coming home before you.
Don't tell her I'm here!
SHH
SHH
Why?
Huh?
Kagetora was there?
You know, Kosuke...
GIGGLE
He said he liked me...
.....
He was a really good friend.
I had a lot of fun.
I went out with a friend from junior high.

He needed to tell me before he left.
He's moving far away.
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
But...
I turned him down.
I turned him down?
What!?
Why?
KYE?
Why?
GLANCE

SWALLOW
Umm...
It's a secret.
I should go back to my room before I catch cold.
KYE
Kosuke, you should be careful, too.
Oh...
Snow. Thought it was getting cold.
FLOAT
It's a secret.

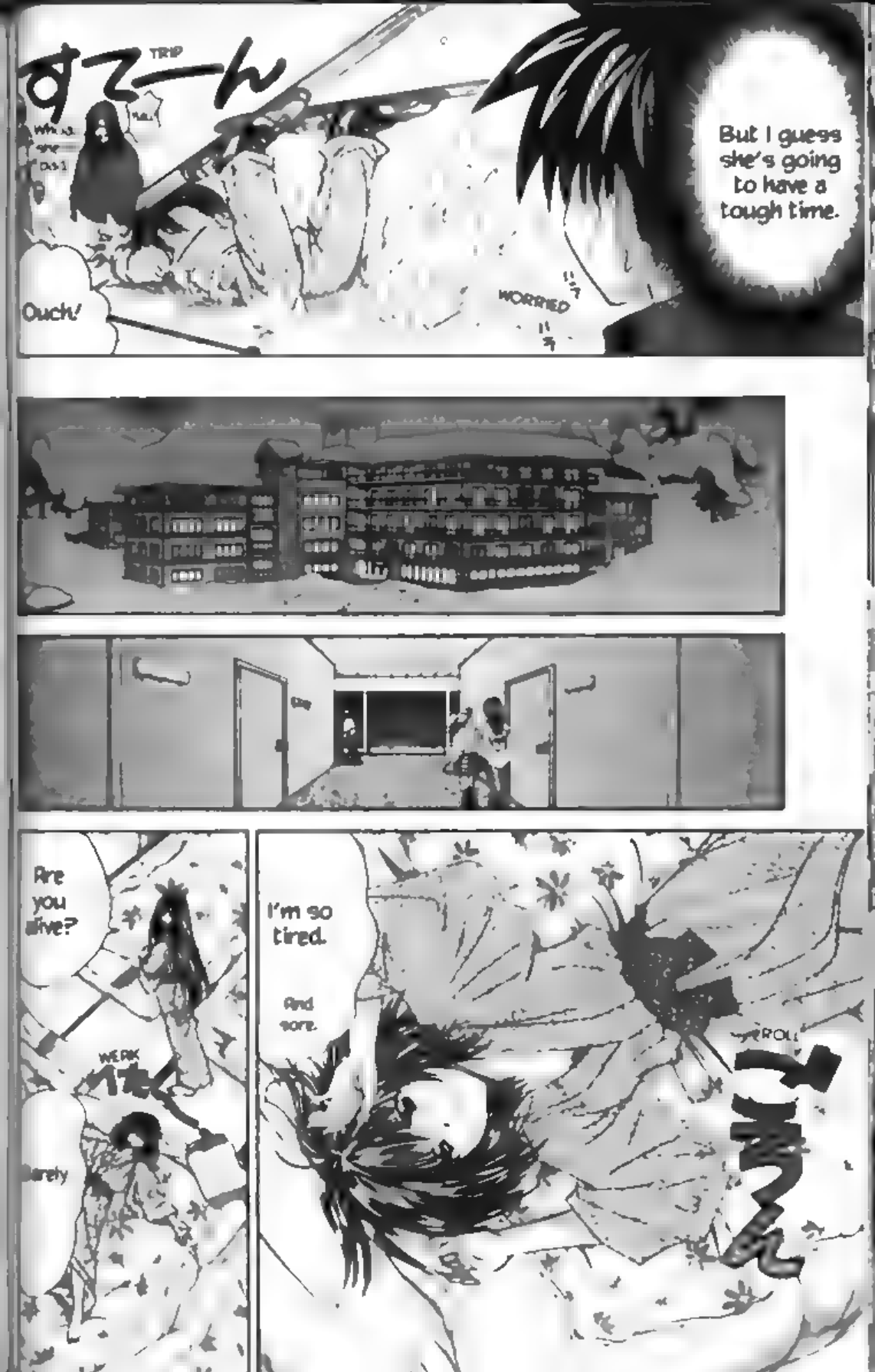
Thanks for being my oyakume ninja.
And you, too, Kagetora.
!?
TH-THUMP
How did she find out?
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
Post Script
I was you...
Oh? I wasn't supposed to tell her?
I see
KYE
But I'm relieved.
I guess I can...
...still stay beside her.

KAGETORA
カゲトラ

Special #3
Beyond the Hot Spring's Steam

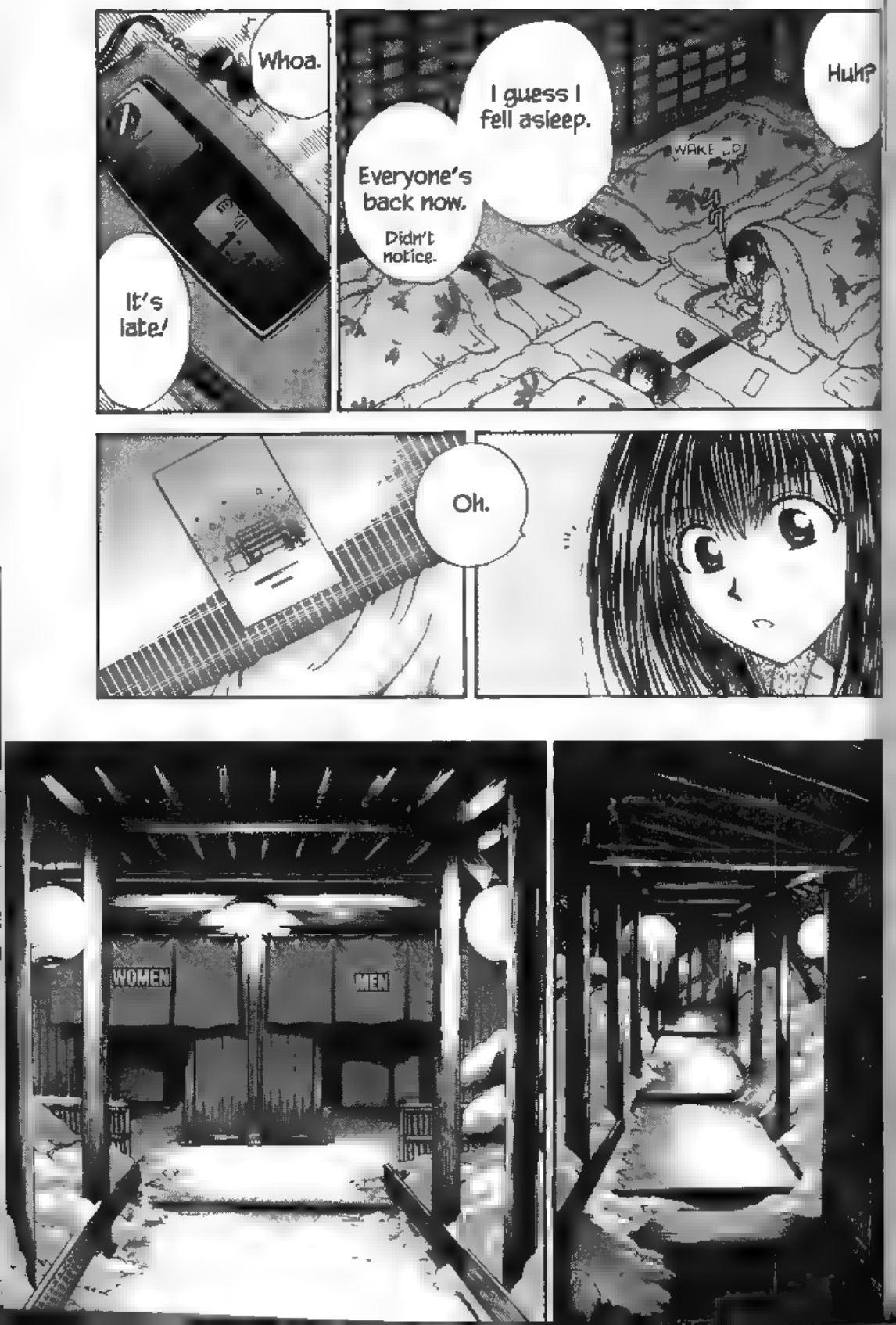
Please get out of the way!
SHWOOOO
Excuse meee!
Hime!?
I can't stop!!
Oh!
THUD!

Yeah!
Yuki, are you okay?
But I guess she's not good at skiing either.
It is a sport.
I'm okay.
Hime, are you hurt!?
Yes.
Okay.
Be careful.
But thanks for saving me.
I have an instructor.
You can go ahead and enjoy skiing.
Hime wanted to attend.
I've never skied before so I want to go.
Let's go!
Sure.
We are here on a field trip, skiing.
Attendance was optional.


TRIP
Ouch!
WORRIED
But I guess she's going to have a tough time.
Are you alive?
WEAK
I'm so tired.
And sore.
ROLL

I'll fall asleep if I go now.
I think I'll go later.
That's true.
Oh, good idea.
Hey, there's a hot spring next door.
We should go!
Okay
Yuki, you want to go?
Let's go now.
Okay.
Then we're going, okay?
FLAP
It looks like it feels good...
DOZE
This hot spring?
Oh, it's really close.

She must've been tired...
When we came back, she was out cold.
Won't wake up.
I see...
She's sleeping?
Huh?
Okay.
I'll give it to her when she wakes up.
Something for her sore muscles.
Kazama's secret ointment.
Can you give this to her later, then?
Hm.
Yeah.
That hot spring felt good.
I can't stay by Hime.
She's in the girls' room.
But now I have nothing to do.
チッ
BLINK


Whoa.
It's late!
I guess I fell asleep.
Everyone's back now.
Didn't notice.
Huh?
WAKE UP!
Oh.
WOMEN
MEN

Wow!
GLANCE
It's like my private hot spring.
There's no one else here.
SPLASH
Excuse me.
Oh, guess there is.
ばったり
EYES MEET
Huh...
TURN

WHAT?
Why are you in the women's bath!?
No, you misunderstand!!
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
What!? Really!?
I didn't know.
I knew it.
The inside baths are separate.
But the outside bath is together.
But it didn't seem like there was any chance Hime would come here.
I waited until now to get in.
Please come in.
You'll catch a cold.
SPLASH
I'll leave.
Achoo.
GASP
Hime!
And just in case, I'll make sure no one comes in.
So you can relax.

Oh
I know!
But...
If I don't watch, you don't know who'll come in.
And if you stay outside, you'll catch a cold.
After the bath.
What!?
No, it's okay, you waited this long to get in, right?
...s it okay?
Er...
The water's not clear.
Okay?
It's so big, we can both stay in here and be far apart.
You can watch for people from here.
...I can't believe I'm taking a bath with Hime.
Even this far apart...
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
...
...

It's nothing, nothing!!
SHAKE
SHAKE
I wasn't thinking anything bad.
SPLASH
Oh!
!!
TH-THUMP
I know I shouldn't be, but I'm a little happy...
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
Owwww...
What!?
Are you okay!?
Yeah
I'm fine...
Hime, what's wrong?
Oh, I got a cramp.
I think it's because my muscles are sore.
...no, I'm not.
Owww
What should I do?
It hurts.

Please do something.
Kagetora.
TEAR
PANIC
What should you do?
I can't massage her in this situation.
PANIC
Hime!
Stretch out your leg and point your toes up.
Like this...
I can't.
It hurts.
I just need to be careful not to look!!
Okay...
URGH
I guess I have no choice.
Maybe here?
RUB
Thanks.
Oww.
Excuse me.
Don't look, don't look.

ばっ
No, Kagetora.
It tickles!
Not there!
SPLASH
Oh...
!
CRAMP
Hime.
Owww.
It still hurts.

Oh.
It doesn't tickle this time.
RUB
RUB
Keep calm! Self-control!!
DIZZY
DIZZY
DIZZY
DIZZY
I guess I have to face forward...
And look...
Uh.
Let me try again.
Thanks.
Ow..
RUB
は
SIGH
feels good.
The cramp's going away.

I was this close to losing it.
I'm glad.
Ha ha...
Thanks, Kagetora.
I'm fine now.
SMILE
That's true.
WOBBLE
SPLASH
We got cold.
Let's warm up a little bit longer.
Look at the stars.
Wow...
Kagetora, did you see that!?
SPLASH
Huh?
TURN
Oh.

A shooting star...

TH-THUMP
Oh...
!

SPLASH
TURN
I'm very sorry!
I...don't know what to do to apologize...
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
I turned around by accident.
Stupid.
She won't even answer me! She's mad!
SILENCE
OH NO
It's fine.
BLUSH
...uh...

Because it was you...
Huh!?
TH-THUMP
What does that mean!?
I mean, it's fine. Don't worry about it.
I'm getting out now.
パタ TMP
パタ TMP

Girls are such a mystery
Does she trust me...
Or just not see me as a guy?

The next day
Kagetora has a fever?
He stayed in the bath too long.
I wonder how long.

KAGETORA
カゲトラ

Special #4
Sweet Talk

Mmm.
I think I have everything.
Milk... sugar... chocolate...
Let's make some chocolate!
Okay! I'm ready.
I have the wrapping materials, too.
WHISK
WHISK

I hope he'll be happy.
LICK
.....
Okay.
Done.
Let me try one.
The next day
Morning
Hey, Kagetora.
Do you know what today is?
Today?
Setsubun already passed.
Oh, you don't know?

Morning.
BUZZ
?
BUZZ
Morning.
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
ummm...
Maybe.
Is it a special day?
Huh?
I have no idea what she's talking about.
At least it doesn't sound like it's bad.
TA-DA
This is my seat, right?
There's a package here.
How weird.
Huh?
I wonder what it is.

Gah!
WHACK
Don't touch it!!
!!
Oh? Kagetora, this is...
LIFT
ひょいっ
Today's Valentine's Day.
That's choco-late.
How do you know?
What if that's something dangerous!?
Dangerous? Don't be stupid.
What are you doing?
That hurt.
It's a day when a girl gives a guy she likes some chocolate.
There are some girls who confess their love, too.
That's optional.
PAT
Valentine's Day?
キョトン
WHAT?

Do you know what today is?
Oh.
That's what Hime was talking about.
You give chocolate to people who take care of you, too. To thank them.
There's also something called obligation chocolate.
?
Hmm
There are many rules to this event.
Obligation...
They're not really rules, but...
Well, anyway, it's pretty important.
Kagetora, you got chocolate?
Hime.
I don't really know.
It was just sitting on my desk.
Could be a mistake.
Oh, that's true.
I don't know why anyone would give you chocolate.
Ha ha ha
You guys...
Well, I agree with you, but...
That's a mean thing to say
Right?

I hope it's a mistake.
Huh?
Oh, nothing.
Kage-tora.
You have a visitor.
A visitor?
Kazama-senpai!
Please accept this!!
Huh? For me!?
Yes!
Oh, he accepted it!
TMP
TMP
Good job.

The teacher might be coming, Aki-chan.
Oh, right.
TURN
PEEK
ひょい!
Oh, Kagetora's quite popular.
That was a sophomore, right?
TH-THUMP
Kagetora-kun...this...
Here you go.
It's obligation.
Go ahead and eat!
Oh, me too.
Here!
Kazama-kun, this is for you.
PILE

Kagetora's good-looking if he keeps his mouth shut.
Unlike you guys.
You guys all stink.
Threaten?
He's a ninja.
I wonder why. I don't get it.
Maybe he threatened them.
WHISPER
WHISPER
WHISPER
Man, that's a ton of chocolate.
But they're all obligation.
Even so, that's a lot.
Don't cry...
How pathetic.
I'm sad!!
You stink!
Kiritani! That's the worst thing you could say!
I don't mind if I get chocolate.
But I'd rather get one from...
I wonder if Hime is giving away chocolate.
It's bothering me.
GLANCE
.....

ai
URGH
I don't get it.
Why is she in a bad mood?
What?
You're so cold.
Get off of me.
CLIMB
Kagetora, I want some chocolate, too.
Filled with love.
You can have some.
Here!
Ono-kun.
You're heavy.
Piggy back

Seri-ously!?
Everyone can have some.
Yeah!
!?
Really? I can take some!?
You made these, right?
Yeah.
It's obligation.
I'm a little relieved.
It's obligation.
Hime made chocolate for everyone.
Thanks.
I'll leave it on the desk.
Aki-chan, take some too.
It's good.
Kagetora, you got other chocolate, so you don't need to eat mine, right?
SMILE
Yeah.
Kagetora, it's going fast.
It's good.
Oh.
Even if it's obligation, I'm happy.

Yeah, I did get others, but...
I want to eat...
Right? So none for you.
SMILE
SMILE
You have a lot.
Huh!?
But...
Oh, I have to go to the rest-room.
TURN
Hime!?
スタ
TMP
スタ
TMP
No way!
SHOCK
She was mad, huh?
I don't think I did...
Kagetora, did you do some-thing?
But she was mad.
Even though she was smiling.
Yeah... You felt it too, huh?
Why don't you just apologize?

You had to say something...
Ikoma/?
Oh, a dart!
Idiot
Man, Yuki-chan's homemade chocolate was good.
Lucky me ♫♡
TWITCH
But I don't know what to say.
HMMM
If I don't know the reason...
I guess I have to ask Hime.
Something so bad I couldn't get any chocolate?
Did I do something to upset you?
Um... Hime...
She's so mad, she won't talk.
I don't get it.
HMPH
.....
No.

.....
.....
Okay!
TURN
You know...
I do have chocolate.
KYE KYE!
Kagetora!
Cute girls brought these for you.
KYE!
KYE.
You have packages.
Kosuke...
Pack-ages?

She's mad again!?
HMPH
Hime!?
Oh no!
TMP
TMP
Er...
POUT
Stupid Kagetora!!
THUMP
Geez.
Hime!?
I guess that was mean...
of me...

I only wanted one from Hime.
You got others.
KYE.
I didn't get anything from Hime.
An oyakume ninja doesn't need chocolate.
KYE KYE
I'm not even in the running.
That's right.
Of course I can't get anything.
I knew it, but...
TAP
We're just ninja and master.
!?
SLIDE
Hime?
TH-THUMP
Huh?
This is...
KLUNK

M.DE
ばっ!
Um.
I... um...
Did you need something?
Oh.
Kage-tora...
Er...
Uh... I wanted...
FLINCH
I kept missing the moment.
To give it to you.
WHOOSH
Because you always take care of me.
Here! This!
It's... for you.
That's all I needed!
Hime!!
Hime.
For me!?

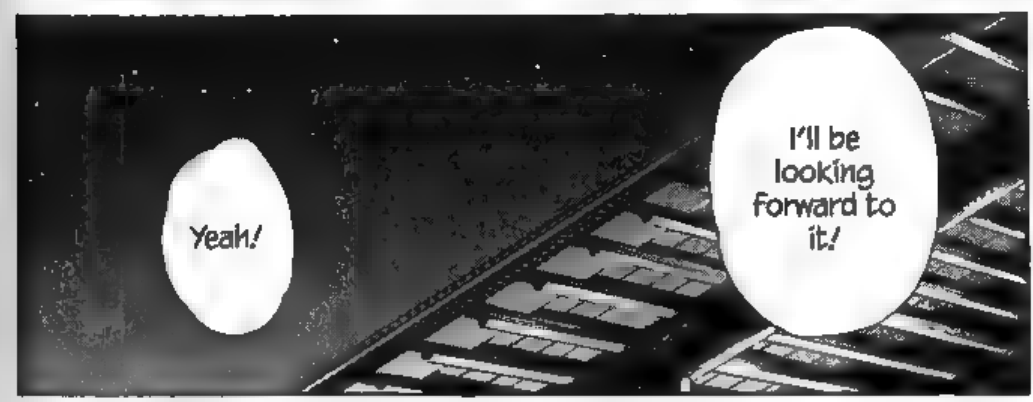
This is too much for an oyakume ninja like me.
I'm very grateful!
Kage-tora...
Can I have some now?
Yeah.
Mm! It's good!!
MUNCH
STARE
Huh!?
TURN
WHISPER
I'm not giving it to you because you're my oyakume ninja.

Huh?
KISS
Uh...
BLUSH
AGAPE
!!
HIDE
Oh, I need to get back!
Oh, Hime...
Kagetora!

I'll make something better...
...next year, okay?

SMILE

Next year...


Yeah!
I'll be looking forward to it!

Bonus Page

This is Segami. We're already in volume 8 and I'm pretty surprised I got this far. It's still going to continue, so please stay with me and enjoy. (laugh)

About Ninjas, Part 8

I've started to take lessons in ninja skills. (laugh) It's quite fun! It's just that I'm so out of shape, my body is creaking every lesson. It's different from karate and stuff because after you throw your opponent, you actually go and "kill" the opponent. Yeah, I guess ninjas would kill their opponent.

If this were real life, I don't know how many times I would've been killed.

The road to becoming a ninja is a long one.

About Traveling

I haven't gone just for pleasure. (cry) I've been to places only if I have stuff to do. I'd like to go somewhere and have it be 100% pleasure and 0% work!!

About Weapons

I get many questions on where I get my weapons, but I get them mostly from a gift shop in Kamakura. They do have ninja weapons at ninja-related facilities all over Japan. So good luck finding them!

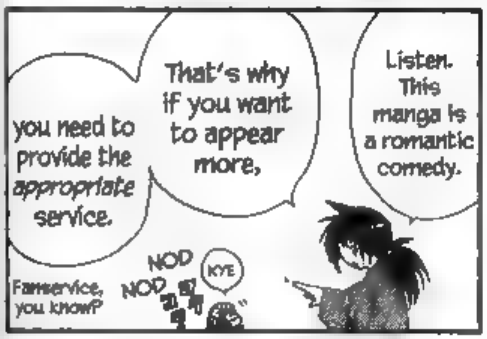
Thank you

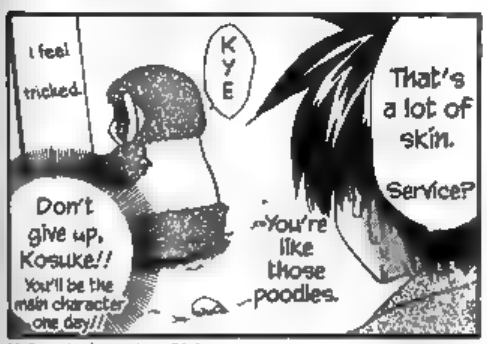
Thank you for all your letters! I hope by the time this volume is out, I'll have written back. I will continue working hard to write back.

I'll see you again.

He appeared a lot this time. (laugh)

Instructions


you need to provide the appropriate service.
That's why if you want to appear more,
Listen. This manga is a romantic comedy.
Fanservice, you know?
NOD NOD
KYE



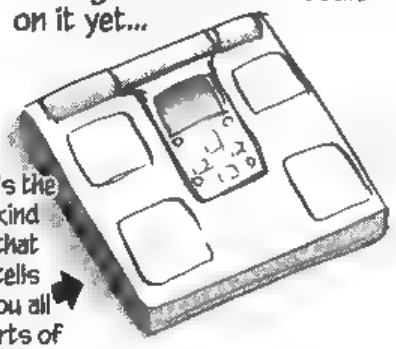
Haircut done by Shiroumaru.

Who's Next?

4. Raffle (laugh)

But it's been too scary, so I haven't gotten on it yet...

I bought a new scale.



It's the kind that tells you all sorts of things...

You know, fat percentage and stuff...

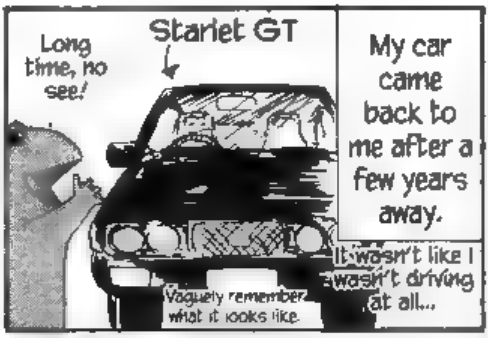
Special Thanks!!

Assistant: Tanaka-kun, Oshima-chan
Helper: Keisui Takaeda-sama
Editor: Mr. Morita
Comics Editor: Houdo-san
All my readers

Then I'll see you in volume 9 ♥

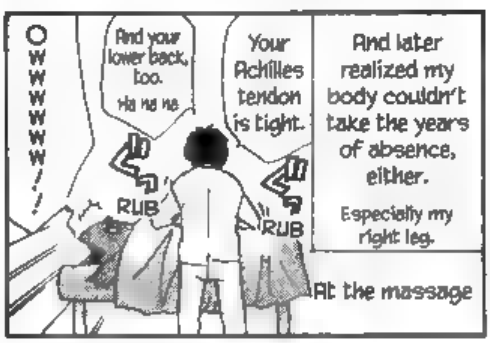
Akira Segami

My Loving Car


Starlet GT
Long time, no see!
My car came back to me after a few years away.
It wasn't like I wasn't driving at all...
Vaguely remember what it looks like.

I discovered the cost of its absence...
The wiper blades need to be replaced.
I think I'll ignore the scratches...
I need to do something about the steering wheel, too.
The leather is ripped up.
The tires are worn.

A manual is so fun!
Woohoo! Drift!
SCREECH
It was probably better to just buy a new car, but I'm attached to this one.
I was having too much fun.


OWWWWW!!
And your lower back, too. Ha ha ha
Your Achilles tendon is tight.
And later realized my body couldn't take the years of absence, either.
Especially my right leg.
RUB
RUB
At the massage

About the Author

Akira Segami's first manga was published by Shogakukan in 1996. He went on to do a few other small projects, including two short stories entitled "Kagetora" in 2001 and 2002. The character proved to be popular with fans, so Segami began his first ongoing series, Kagetora, with Kodansha in 2003. The series continues to run today.

Translation Notes

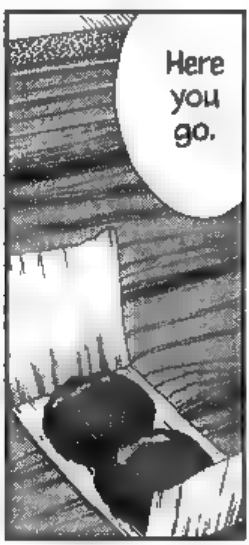
Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used

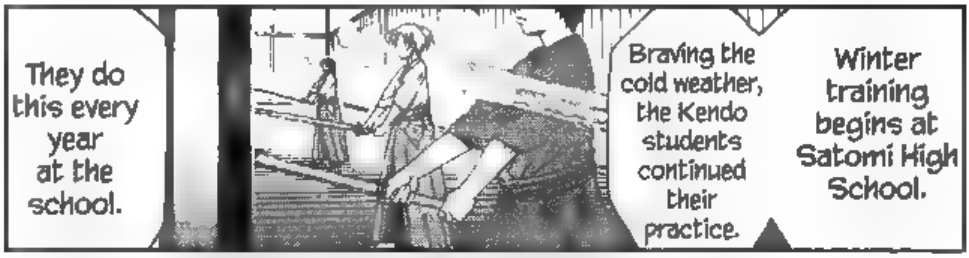
Basho, page iv

Basho refers to Matsuo Basho, one of the greatest haiku (a poem on the subject of nature that uses 5-7-5 syllables) poets in Japanese history. The author is referring to a journey that Basho took that resulted in the poet's most famous journal, "The Narrow Road to the Deep North."

***Ohagi*, page 69**

Ohagi is a Japanese sweet dish made with sweet rice and covered with red beans. It is also known as *botamochi*, but the Japanese only call it *botamochi* when they eat it in the spring. *Ohagi* is the name for this dish when it is eaten in autumn.




They do this every year at the school.
Braving the cold weather, the Kendo students continued their practice.
Winter training begins at Satomi High School.

Kendo, page 121
A sport/martial art similar to fencing. People use bamboo swords and fight wearing special protective gear.

Jujitsu, page 126
Jujitsu is a Japanese martial art, in which artists use the attacker's force and redirect it against them.

***Mehn*, page 127**

Mehn is a shout used in Kendo. It mean's "mask," and it refers to a move in kendo when the person shouting is aiming for the head.

***Naginata*, page 130**

A *naginata* is a long-handled sword. It looks like a spear with a short sword at the tip of it. In modern Japan, it is usually used in martial arts for women.

Cosplay, page 150

Cosplay is a term invented in Japan, joining the two words "costume" and "play." It usually refers to a person who dresses up as a character from an anime or game.

***Setsubun*, page 187**

Setsubun is the day before a new season begins. It usually refers to the beginning of spring, and is celebrated on February 3. Japanese people celebrate by throwing soybeans out the door, chanting "demons outside! Good fortune stay in!"

Kamakura, page 205

Kamakura is a city located in Kanagawa prefecture, which is southwest of Tokyo. It is a popular tourist spot because of all the temples and shrines and its beautiful beach.

BROTHERLY LOVE?

Kagetora is in love with his student, Yuki, and that's a big no-no. His duty as a ninja is to train and protect her, but his heart has taken him places no ninja can ever go. Now Kagetora's brother Taka is in town to test Yuki—which only strains the relationship between Kagetora and his charge. Will Taka's presence cause more problems for a pair who already have too many?

INCLUDES SPECIAL EXTRAS AFTER THE STORY!

BYAAAH SCANS

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